

[4th February 1925]

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“Is not the hon. the Minister aware of the fact that in the election rules there is a provision to the effect that all orders passed by the Special Election Tribunal are final?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“If the election took place. But here the question at issue is whether there was election or not.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“The matter was pending before the court when the Government passed the order that it was invalid. If so, did the Government know who took the initiative in the election, or whether it was not one of the points raised in the petition presented to the court?”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“May I know if any appeal was preferred against the order of the court?”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“May I know if the Government is going to answer my question? I want to know whether at the time the Government passed the order and the petition was pending before the court, this very point as to who took the initiative in the election was one of the points raised in the petition.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“I have already answered that the initiative was not taken by the President of the District Board.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Was it one of the points raised in the petition that was pending before the court when the Government passed the order declaring the election void?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“I do not know that I only said that the initiative was not taken by the District Board President.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I am sorry if I have not made myself clear. I am asking whether that particular point that the election was void because the initiative was not taken by the President, District Board, was not one of the grounds in the petition presented to set aside the election?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“I cannot say that offhand.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“If the High Court also ruled in his favour, will the hon. the Minister wait till the Privy Council also decided in his favour?”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“The processes of law are known for their long delay. May I know whether Government propose to compensate the delay in any way?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“No hypothetical cases can be put.”

Wearing of khaddar by the Guntur taluk board subordinates.

* 61 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons why the Government have by their G.O. No. 3167, L. & M., dated the 10th November 1924, cancelled the resolution of the Guntur taluk board relating to the wearing of khaddar by taluk board subordinates, pupils and teachers; and

(b) whether the Collector was consulted in the matter?

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A.—(a) The resolution referred to ran as follows:—

“Circular to be issued that every subordinate receiving his salary from the taluk board funds should forthwith wear khadi. Teachers should persuade the pupils both male and female to wear khadi as far as possible themselves compulsorily clad in khaddar as far as possible.” The taluk board has no power to compel its subordinates and teachers to wear khaddar. The resolution was therefore in excess of the powers conferred on it by law.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I ask whether the circular was in Telugu or in English?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“English.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“The answer is ‘The taluk board has no power to compel its subordinates and teachers to wear khaddar’. May I ask whether the taluk board has no power to enforce a uniform on its subordinates?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“They have no power.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“The subordinates can dress as they like?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Yes.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I know how then this circular regarding the dress would mean an anxiety on the part of the taluk board to oppose the law?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Because the order was one which they should not have passed.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“Assuming that they have no power to enforce khadi on their subordinates, why should the hon. the Minister object to the teachers persuading the pupils both male and female to wear khadi as far as possible? I am asking why the latter part of the circular which simply recommends and not enforces was also cancelled.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The Government consider that it was not part of their duties.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I ask if it is not part of the duty of the taluk board to encourage people to become self-sufficient economically which would lead to a richer and happier life?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“It is not the duty of the teachers, but that of the politicians.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“Is not the taluk board composed of politicians?”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—“I wish to know if it is not open to a taluk board to advise subordinates as to how to dress.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The order was *ultra vires*. Hence it is that the Government cancelled it.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—“I am tempted to put this question with reference to the answer of the hon. the Minister where he

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stated regarding the latter portion of the order that it was not part of their duties to persuade people. I believe the hon. the Minister will please say if local boards cannot be prevented from advising their subordinates."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Advising is different from passing orders."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" So, I take it the hon. the Minister has no objection to advising."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Not as taluk boards, but as individual members."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether it is part of the duty of an elementary teacher of a taluk board to persuade pupils, both male and female to wear khaddar? The persuasion is with regard to the pupils and it is said to be the *duty* of the teachers to be compulsorily clad in khaddar according to the politicians in this particular taluk board. I am asking whether they can compel the teachers to do this, and I am asking the hon. the Chief Minister whether it is the duty of an elementary teacher of a taluk board school which receives a grant from the Government? Therefore Government have a hand in the matter of asking the teacher to persuade the pupils."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I have already replied that it is not part of their (teachers) duty."

The introduction of the District Municipalities Act (Amendment) Bill.

* 62 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when he expects to be in a position to introduce the District Municipalities Act (Amendment) Bill;

(b) whether he is considering the question of empowering by statute district municipalities to prohibit the slaughter of useful cattle within their areas; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The Bill will be introduced as soon as certain necessary alterations have been made.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer given to his supplementary question on question No. 647 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council, dated 19th March 1924.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c)—the hon. the Minister will correct me if I am wrong—my recollection is that Government said that they were considering the question in the light of opinions on this matter. I should like to know whether they have not yet received these opinions and whether they are considering this question of empowering the district municipalities."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Opinion is still coming in."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" When will they end coming?" (Laughter).